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"THIS IS THE INTERCOLLEGIATE BROADCASTING SYSTEM"

THE BULLETIN

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FCC PROPOSALS FAVOR EDUCATIONAL RADIO
by George Abraham, Chairman, IBS Executive Committee

Page 3

A recent report of the Federal Communications Commission made public the proposed frequency allocations of the post-war radio spectrum from 25mc to 30,000 mc. Liberal consideration was given to the needs of education in the overall planning. In addition to long-wave and frequency modulation channels now in use by education, it is intended that additional bands be made available for the use of universities, colleges, and secondary schools. These include supplemental channels for non-commercial educational FM, SHF channels, (3,000 to 30,000 mc) for point-to-point communication and broadcast among educational institutions, relay and ST link frequencies contingent upon educational needs

Considerable investigation and study preceded the proposed assignments. During the fall of 1944 hearings on general frequency allocation for non-governmental radio services were held by the FCC. The hearings covered standard broadcast, amateur and international broadcast, television, FM, facsimile, and many other services. The frequencies involved were from 10 kc to 30,000 mc. The meetings were held preliminary to the eventual extension of the licensed portion of the radio spectrum in order to provide channels for many new types of services together with current broadcast requirements. The FCC hearings were planned to precede the Pan-American and international conferences which will be held starting this year.

I appeared in behalf of the college stations at a session on non-commercial FM broadcast together with many other educational witnesses. Most of the speakers at this hearing supported a proposal by Dr. J.W. Studebaker of the Office of Education calling for additional frequency modulation channels for education to supplement the existing non-commercial FM band. Such an assignment would be of primary interest to secondary schools and school systems. As this type of broadcast would be entirely on a noncommercial basis, the main source of support would have to come from grants or endowments. The Office of Education proposals were supported in the IBS presentation. Additional allocations recommended for the college stations were also outlined in my testimony. These were:

- (a) Several channels in the LF portion of the radio spectrum (30-300 kc).
- (b) Six channels in the SHF band (3,000 - 30,000 mc) for point-to-point communication and broadcast among educational institutions, and for the development and study of SHF transmission under the supervision of the college engineering department.

The matter of joint use of relay facilities by schools and colleges has been discussed by members of the IBS and the Office of Education. School Systems are on the air mornings and early afternoons. College stations generally broadcast in the late afternoons and evenings. Hence joint use of educational relay facilities would be expedient for both schools and colleges. Fewer channels would be required in a given service area and the overall cost would be reduced. In many cases the IBS and the college stations would be in a better position than most schools to support and maintain relay facilities financially and technically. As proposed by the IBS, its relay facilities could well be employed by school systems during the day when college stations are off the air. Better programs of mutual interest could be carried by both

school and college radio stations. Through the aid of sponsored programs and grants college stations would be able to support relay facilities.

The proposed educational allocation would be of public service in several respects:

- (a) Exchange Programs: A link among educational institutions could be provided. The better programs or events originating from one institution could be made available to any school, college or university in the same service area. The facilities if used jointly by the colleges and school systems at different times would minimize the required number of channels to be allocated for relay purposes.
- (b) Network Rebroadcasts: Broadcasts to the public of the better educational programs could be made possible through the commercial networks by relay from the educational institutions.
- (c) Training Ground: The channels would provide a basis for training students interested in making a career in the technical or programing aspects of network operation.
- (d) Engineering and Development: Assignments of frequencies to higher educational institutions can make possible further study and development of the circuit and propagation phenomena at the higher frequencies.

The following quotation from the FCC report applies to IBS stations which desire relay or point-to-point broadcast and communication service with other educational institutions:

"The Commission's decision is to allocate much of the spectrum from 3,000 to 30,000 mc for experimental use; members of the Intercollegiate Broadcasting System college engineering departments, or others can apply for experimental use of channels along the lines proposed by Mr. Abraham and such applications will be considered on their individual merits."

Channels in the LF portion of the spectrum (30-300 kc) have been allocated to maritime and other nonbroadcast services for some time. As these frequencies are overtaxed, the assignment of broadcast channels in this band was not considered feasible. Instead, "educational broadcasters desiring relay or studio-transmitter link facilities can make application in the bands now being opened for such use."

The need for adequate relay facilities has been demonstrated on various occasions by member colleges of the IBS. Support of the FCC in making available the necessary relay channels and in extending the educational FM band is important to the future of educational radio.

FROM THE COLLEGE MAILBAG....

Yale:

"WOCD has extended its broadcasting hours so that now Yale students are able to hear 7½ hours of radio entertainment especially tailored for them. The schedule now features the usual Yawn Club in the morning from 6:30 a.m. to 8:00 a.m., Musical Matinee at 5:00 p.m. Dinner Music at 6:00, the usual schedule of popular music and complete coverage of sports events and news until 9:00, Serenade at 9:45 (a program especially designed to interest Navy Students), and Symphony Hall from 10:00 to 11:00...."

"On the technical side, a new wire has recently been installed to the Payne Whitney Gymnasium so that basketball games can become a regular feature on the station. This brings to three the total of supplementary wires...we already have one to the Yale Field and to the auxiliary studios in Dwight Hall..."

Brown:

"PROGRAM DEPARTMENT: Aside from the early morning Navy record shows, and the afternoon Tea Dansante F.M. rebroadcast, the most noteworthy shows have been broadcasts of basketball games, the Faunce House Christmas Dance, and the BUBC Variety Show (now the Network House Party, as named in a recent contest). This is a real variety show featuring two skits, two orchestral numbers, two vocals, and an interview with a campus celebrity--an ROTC member formerly with the fleet, a Japanese-American student recently returned from a relocation center, the campus dietician, an officer from the V-12 unit, and so forth. The program is very popular, as entries in the title contest and a jam-packed studio audience can testify. Plans are afoot to have fifteen-minute shows of vocalists and comedy skits, drawn from the overflow of talent working on the variety show..."

"ADVERTISING: Shows sponsored by national advertisers very popular on campus. We are well able to handle many more fifteen-minute shows, especially record shows built on one idea. Local ads fluctuate with the seasons: pre-Christmas spot advertising reached an all-time high."

UNION:

"As you no doubt realize the activities of station UCFS have been confined to a minimum during the past operating term. However, many improvements have been made due to the diligent work of the small but efficient crew. Our technical staff has succeeded in remodeling our present transmitter and improving our modulation unit. A check of our transmission lines by this staff proved a good idea, as several opens and shorts which had occurred as a result of the winter weather were repaired.....The General Electric campus news program has found a great interest around the campus. A/S Dante Scaccia is on hand every evening to announce any news, Navy or civilian, which might be interesting to the students. Music is played before and after this for the enjoyment of those in the chow hall....The R.C.A. contract providing for two program series, "Campus Tune Parade", a fifteen-minute popular music show and "Music You Want, When You Want It" have been received with great enthusiasm. Approximately 900 records, 700 classical and 200 popular have been supplied with monthly supplements. This supply of records insures UCFS listeners a wide variety of enjoyable programs."

Wesleyan:

..."With a full broadcasting schedule of Monday through Friday, 7:30 to 8:00 a.m., 4:00 to 6:00 p.m., and 7:15 to 10:20 p.m., WES has continued to carry some of its old shows, and has also added several new ones. Among the most popular of the programs of previous semesters are: the all request show Jive at Five, and the Music Box. There are also several classical programs in the evening..."

Most of those who work at the station are in the Navy unit stationed at Wesleyan..However, there are still some civilians on the staff. Recently through a contract with R.C.A., WES increased its classical library by at least 200. The latter are supplied as they are pressed by the company, and provide an opportunity for new-release programs such as our new one at WES....."

Radcliffe:

"At the start of this month Radio Radcliffe launched a campaign for new members under an entirely new plan. Instead of the old system of competitions which never worked too well, we urged all members of the student body interested in radio to sign up at the college station as Apprentice Members. Instead of going through a rigid four-week training period with definite assignments and strict rules, Apprentice Members receive their instruction on a purely individual basis. If someone displays great enthusiasm and wants to become a member in a short time, her training may take as little as two weeks. Someone else who is unable to spend much time at the station, may take several months to become a full-fledged member.

All Apprentice Members must learn the turntables, and must by the end of their training, have a clear picture of all the things that go into an evening of broadcasting. Production members must learn to announce and write scripts; technical aspirants learn the controls and as much as possible about the equipment. They become full members after an oral examination..."

We have been running two excellent weekly programs:

The first is a ten-minute book review program, arranged by Kathleen McCloghrie, the second is a program entitled Americana in Music. The latter traces the development of music in America from the conquest of Mexico to the present day. You may recall that this program series was run before when Eileen Ellis was here, but the staff decided unanimously to re-run it.

Current Personnel Lists

The Cardinal Network

Wesleyan University Douglass Ford, Station Manager
"Mc" McKinney, Chief Announcer
Peter L. Hayes, Chief Engineer
Thomas Lawrence, Program Manager

Bama Radio Network

University of Alabama..... Sue Reese, President
Gordon Snyder, Vice President and
Program Manager
Joan Nirenberg, Secretary-treasurer
Rhea Yarbrough, Script Editor
Nelle Moore, Sound Director
Marie Carlile, Music Director
Joan Meyers, Studio Manager
Edith Ruderman, Business Manager
Jim Harding, Chief Announcer
Herbert Tischler, Chief Engineer
Tommie Gosset and Evelyn Perling
Co-Publicity Directors

Station UCRS

Union College..... A/S Weston Vivian, Technical Director
A/S Rocky Howard, Assistant
Elihu Cohen, Engineering Director
A/S Don Mullen, Chief Announcer
A/S Morris Canter, temporary chief
A/S George Kitchell, temporary chief
Boyd A. Howe, Vice-President

Station BUBC

Brown University..... Will Farrell, President
Regis P. Hunkele, Station Manager
Herb Barlow, Jr. Business Manager
Niles Barlow, Music Director
Don Burnside, Chief Engineer
Art Bobrick, Program Director
Nancy Green, Advertising Manager
Joan Spear, Publicity Director

BUSINESS DEPARTMENT REPORT

Advertising over the IBS stations has reached an all time high with four major accounts sponsoring time. These include the General Electric Company, R.C.A. Victor, Helena Rubinstein, and the Gruen Watch Company. All of these companies have taken advantage of the IBS Post-War Option Plan which enables accounts buying time over available IBS stations to have first choice to the best programs and times on all new IBS member stations as they become available throughout the country. Indications are that almost every major college in the country today will operate a college radio station as a member of the Intercollegiate Broadcasting System within several years after the war.

Advertisers consider their sponsorship of programs over IBS stations as major campaigns, not good will gestures. A good example of this can be found in the emphasis which R.C.A. Victor is giving to its IBS advertising. Although Victor presents classical music programs on over fifty standard stations, special scripts and record libraries are supplied to the IBS stations. R.C.A. Victor is planning to feature its IBS college promotion in Record Retailing, a Victor publication which is distributed to R.C.A. dealers and distributors throughout the country. The first phrases of their article will read as follows:

"The Intercollegiate Broadcasting System is an organization you'll be hearing about in the near future...and enterprising record dealers in college communities place the local IBS high on 'Special Customers' lists. R.C.A. Victor, with an eye toward record promotion, has been quick to cooperate with IBS, whose influence is spreading rapidly."

TECHNICAL DEPARTMENT REPORT

Pages T13040 to T13049 for the IBS Technical Data Book were released the first part of January. This release describes means of using high tension a-c wiring for the transmission of radio signals to a limited area. In general, high tension lines may only be used by a campus radio station when power is generated separately for the college; or well-isolated from other community lighting circuits. In general, city colleges cannot make use of this method.

Ready for release now is a listing of all broadcasting stations in the United States on the frequencies 550kc., to 690kc., inclusive. Also, the design of crystal and self-excited oscillators will be discussed in this section, and the means of selecting the best frequency for operation will be described.

In the Federal Communications Commission's preliminary report on frequency allocations between 25 mc and 30,000 mc., the standard band is discussed. It is proposed to add one more channel to this band at 540kc. This move will open up a desirable spot for campus transmission systems. When the allocation of this channel is made official all IBS stations will be notified.

The recent arrival of the R.C.A. ten and twelve inch recordings has resulted in considerable activity in the field of building record-holding cabinets. Designs seem to run to shelves about five feet long, with vertical partitions every eight inches to support groups of records. Some means of locking the records in is provided, such as hinged boards across the face of each row of records with a hasp and padlock at each end. The number of padlocks can be reduced by arranging a steel rod to pass vertically through all the hasps on each end of the cabinet, and then locking the bar into place.

R.C.A. estimates the required shelf space will be 18 feet not counting partitions, etc. This is to accomodate 850 records.

David Borst
Technical Manager